

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 00553 111812Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----119097 111845Z /53

P R 111758Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4691  
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T BONN 00553

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, IT, GW  
SUBJECT: FRG VIEWS ON ITALIAN SITUATION

REF: STATE 004582 (NOTAL)

1. DURING A CONVERSATION ON JANUARY 11, FOREIGN OFFICE STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL TOLD ME THE FRG IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN ITALY AND IS CONSIDERING WAYS TO EXPRESS ITS ANXIETIES. ACCORDING TO VAN WELL, THE FRG BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF THE "EUROPEANS" (PRESUMABLY THE EC-NINE) MADE CLEAR TO THE ITALIAN POLITICAL LEADERSHIP THAT THEY WOULD NOT LOOK FAVORABLY UPON THE ENTRY OF THE PCI INTO AN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT. VAN WELL NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRG HAD NO FIRM PLANS IN THIS REGARD AT PRESENT.

2. VAN WELL SAID THE FRG DOES NOT BELIEVE ANDREOTTI WILL BRING THE PCI INTO THE GOVERNMENT. AT THEIR VERONA MEETING ON DECEMBER 1, ANDREOTTI HAD TOLD SCHMIDT THIS WAS A STEP HE WOULD NEVER TAKE. ANDREOTTI SAID HE HAD RECEIVED A MANDATE ON THE BASIS OF A CAMPAIGN AGAINST COMMUNIST ENTRY INTO AN ITALIAN

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GOVERNMENT AND HE COULD NOT NOW REVERSE HIMSELF.

3. THE FRG BELIEVED ANDREOTTI WAS MORE LIKELY TO RESHUFFLE THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND, IF THAT WERE UNSUCCESSFUL, TO CALL ELUCTANTLY FOR NEW ELECTIONS. VAN WELL IMPLIED THAT THE PCI SHARED THE DC'S LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR A RETURN TO THE POLLS.

4. VAN WELL ASKED ME ABOUT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF  
AMBASSADOR GARDNER'S RECALL TO WASHINGTON. WAS THIS  
TO BE INTERPRETED AS A SIGNAL TO THE DC? I RESPONDED  
THAT WE WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION AND THAT  
THE AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN ASKED TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON  
FOR CONSULTATIONS.  
STOESSEL

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** FRG VIEWS ON ITALIAN SITUATION  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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